

THE GATEWAY

Volume LXXXIX Number 32

Thursday, 8 February, 2000

<http://www.su.ualberta.ca/gateway/>



Archer Prewitt and Sam Prekop of The Sea and Cake helped patrons of the New City Liquid Lounge to a serving of mellow pop.

Chul-Ahn Jeong / THE GATEWAY

Rohypnol warnings at Lister nothing to be concerned about, say staff

Neil Parmar

NEWS STAFF

Posters warning students about the dangers of Rohypnol appeared around student residence Lister Hall last week, and staff are puzzled as to where they came from or why they were posted.

The poster read "Warning Poster: Ruffies (the date-rape drug) have been used in Lister Hall! Watch your drinks and your friends!"

Erin Baydak of Lister Hall denied knowledge of the poster "unless it's a joke, or someone is being a little paranoid. The supervisors didn't put up that poster."

Although Rohypnol, (commonly called Ruffies or the date-rape drug) was not found in the residence, it has been a growing problem around the University.

"It takes a lot for women to admit they were sexually harassed or abused, but it's important they come forward and confront their fears," said Director Kris Sowler of the University's Sexual Assault Centre.

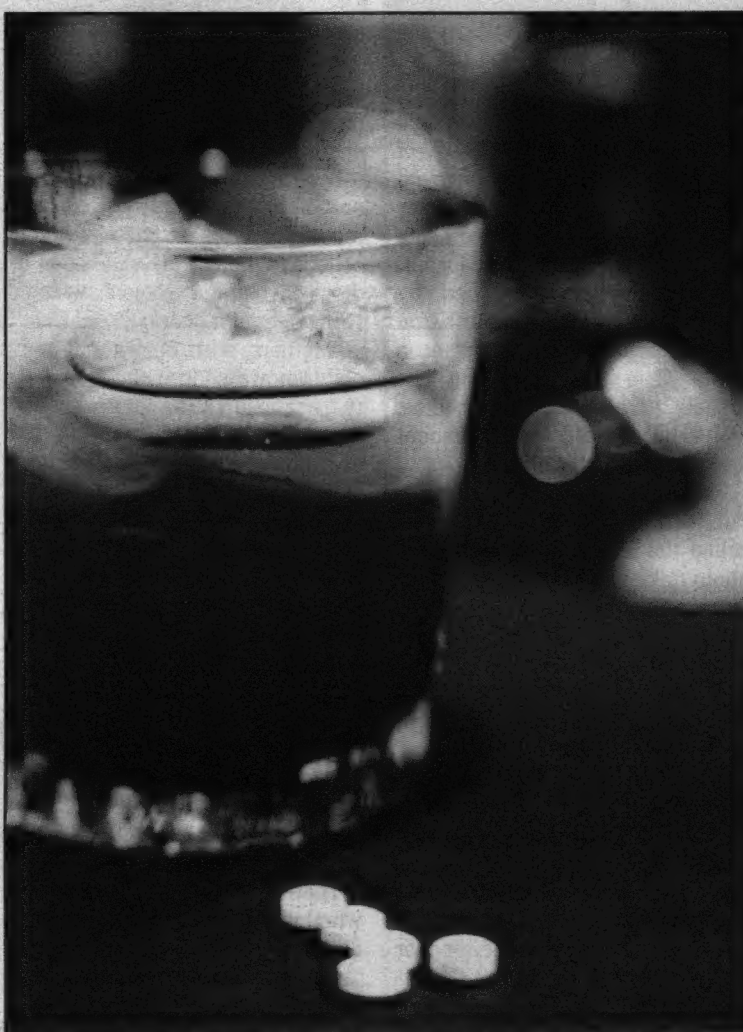
"Our goal for the Sexual Awareness Week, [January 31 to

February 4], was to let the students on campus know they have somewhere to go. Although we've only ever had three reports where the date-rape drug was possibly used, a lot of cases go unheard," she said.

One case, however, reached court in Edmonton and became ground breaking in the fight against the use of Rohypnol. When sentenced to prison on February 4, Paul Lesniak became the first Canadian to be prosecuted and charged for the crime of rape with use of the drug. Purchasing the illegal substance over the internet for a mere \$15.00 US, Lesniak used it to rape his sedated ex-wife.

Rohypnol appears as a white tablet, and is usually placed in drinks at bars and clubs. Within 30 minutes of swallowing the tranquilizer, muscle relaxation and temporary amnesia is induced. Combined with these effects, and the fact that it is untraceable after several hours, a victim is often left with nothing but vague confusion. As insidious as it may sound, the danger doesn't stop there.

PLEASE SEE "DATE-RAPE" ON PAGE 4



Rohypnol: the drug somebody is warning Lister Hall residents about.

Jennifer Park / THE GATEWAY

Physical Plant Director fired

VP Harris denies that Fleming has resigned

Ryan Smith

NEWS EDITOR

The University of Alberta has fired Dan Pretzlaff, said sources who wish to remain anonymous.

Pretzlaff, former Director of the University's Physical Plant, had been suspended since last October and was the subject of a disciplinary hearing that concluded last week. Pretzlaff now has 20 working days to appeal the decision. Reached at home, Pretzlaff's wife said that her husband would not comment on his situation at the U of A because "it is still an ongoing issue."

Pretzlaff's disciplinary hearing centred on the way he procured a pick-up truck.

PLEASE SEE "PHYSICAL" ON PAGE 3



Today

10 Edmonton punks are working to eliminate violence from the scene. They met over the weekend to discuss the issue.

12 The Bears hockey team hosted the UBC Thunderbirds in what should have been an easy sweep for the Bears, who managed to hold top spot in the CIAU.

Quote for the day:

In America, sex is an obsession; in other parts of the world, it's a fact.

— Marlene Dietrich

This day in The Gateway's history:

A letter from the Conceptual Reality Alternative Party is published in The Gateway. The SU election joke party, whose abbreviation is CRAP, calls independent joke candidates pretenders and advises students to burn the ballots. And no: Preston Manning was not part of the CRAP party.

1979

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Please recycle this newspaper

THE GATEWAY

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The Gateway is created using Apple Macintosh Computers, a Hewlett-Packard ScanJet 3c flatbed scanner, and a Polaroid SprintScan 35 Plus optical film scanner. Adobe InDesign and QuarkXPress are used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images. Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. The Gateway has a hot new HP LaserJet 5000N, which is used to produce paste-up images of the pages. The Gateway's games of choice are Dave Dobson's marvellous Snood, and Maxis' SimCity 2000.

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Raymond Biesinger, Neil Parmar, Rotating Dog, James Elford, Greg Kennedy, Kris Meen, Dave Stiles, Adam Houston, Dave Alexander, Tony Estevez, Jeff Miranda, Keith Justik, Daoracey Le Bray, Joseph Kumpula, Chris Miller, Emma Hooper, Sarah Chan, Jon Dunbar, Vanessa McLeod, Sheldon Biamonte, Dan Jancewicz, Tim Bulger, Jenn Park, Dave Zeibin

From Slobodan Milosevic to tuberculosis in Sudan

International Week lectures bring a world-wide perspective to the U of A

Raymond Biesinger

NEWS STAFF

International Week speakers explored Peace and Human Security issues last week in forums that encouraged audience participation and discussion. With topics concerning almost all of the world's six billion residents, this largest annual U of A event provided a forum for people to speak about their global concerns.

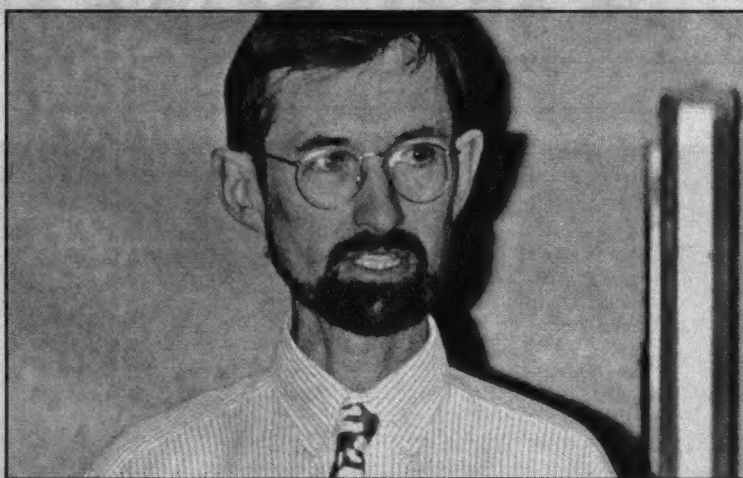
Raphael Girard, Canada's ambassador to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia since 1997, came to speak on the actions taken by the international community in indicting Slobodan Milosevic for war crimes for his leading role of the rogue Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY). In the opinion of the Canadian government, voiced by Girard, the indictment is amply justified, even though "many observers questioned the wisdom of such a move given that it appeared to have closed off the avenue of direct negotiations with Milosevic to end the war."

In 1997, Girard was appointed Canadian ambassador to the FRY. Given the conclusion of the Serbo-Croatian and Bosnian wars, Girard's efforts were to gradually normalise relations as long as the FRY respected the Dayton Accords, the newly struck peace settlement for the Bosnia-Herzegovina war.

In his posting, Girard expected to be privy to the relatively progressive nature of the Yugoslavia he had experienced during a posting in the early seventies, what he refers to as "more advanced than in any country of Eastern Europe."

Since then, the seven republics of Yugoslavia have dwindled to two: Montenegro and greater Serbia.

As soon as Girard's speech was over, his Stollery Centre audience



Nobel Peace Prize winner Stan Houston lectured for International week.

Dan Jancewicz / THE GATEWAY

began to ask questions regarding the ineffectiveness of the Canada-supported bombings of Serbia in creating democracy in Kosovo. Some members of the audience distributed handouts entitled "The War in Yugoslavia and Canada's Response: Alternative Facts and Opinions," while warning the audience that the Canadian version of events was not the only version, and most likely an incomplete one.

Reporters Liane Faulder, Linda Goyette and Cheryl Purdey sat on a soft brown couch in the International Centre last Thursday. They were talking about their 1999 sojourns to Haiti, Rumania and Thailand to interview children who are in desperate circumstances. They documented what they found, and returned to Canada to share the images.

The children Linda Goyette saw in Haiti were struck with such poverty that two thirds of them could not afford schooling past grade six. Haiti's original 1805 constitution promised free education.

Whereas children of the elite can afford to be sent to Miami for knee surgery, three hundred thousand Haitian youths spend their time as indentured servants, called

restaveks in Creole, working ten hours, seven days a week, Goyette said. All of this in a nation of seven million, the size of Vancouver island.

Amid the ruins of Nicolai Ceausescu's ethnic-nationalist Rumania, Liane Faulder pointed to anti-birth control policies as the cause for Rumania's massive orphanage populations.

In an effort to create a Rumanian-only state, the dictator's regime banned all forms of birth control, and made abortion illegal.

Although the execution of Ceausescu was seen by millions of Rumanians on state television, his death was not accompanied by change. "Ten years after Ceausescu, there is still a huge culture of abandonment," Faulder said, also pointing out that a popular stigma against adopting illegitimate children contributes to the overcrowded orphanages.

Given this lack of alternatives, orphanages can house from "500 to 700" children, in which they often "sit there in their cribs for three or four months without a name."

1999 Nobel Peace Prize winning U of A Professor Stan Houston turned the lecture theatre lights

down low and used slides to help explain the situation of civilians in southern Sudan, a region at the mercy of what he calls "one of the two most reprehensible regimes in the world."

Since the nation's independence in 1956, peace has been the exception and not the norm in a war perpetuated in part by foreign interests and religious difference.

His first slide showed a Sudanese refugee settlement: flat plains of sand, blue sky, and small square shacks; a setting that could be easily confused with a cubist painting. Once established, the changing front lines of the Sudanese civil war commonly dictate that settlements be "bulldozed and [residents] forced to relocate to another place" said Houston.

Houston may have won his Nobel Prize for his contributions to AIDS research, but in his speech he recalled his efforts in the Sudan. From 1994-98 Houston was part of a consulting mission contributing to the Doctors Without Borders campaign against Tuberculosis (TB) in Africa's largest country.

Poverty, malnutrition and crowding are ideal grounds for the spread of TB, conditions that war-torn Sudan has plentifully. Due to the nature of TB, the only possible treatment involves a long-term regimen of pills, with any interruption in treatment creating the possibility of developing drug resistance, explained Houston, adding that "A bad TB program is worse than no TB program."

To Houston, the solution to stopping the spread of fatal disease in the region "is preventing these conflict situations and refugee situations in the first place." For him, "Naive is too kind a word" to describe the foreign companies doing business with combatants, all the while assuming Sudanese profits will not go to weaponry.

Women's newspaper at UVic censored for nude photo

Brenda Martin

THE MARTLET

VICTORIA (CUP) — A women's newspaper at the University of Victoria (UVic) had to change its cover this week after its printer refused to print a front-page photo of a woman with her naked daughter.

Island Publishers—owned by British Columbia newspaper baron David Black—refused to print a photo of a woman baring her breasts in a black latex bodice, while her naked, prepubescent daughter danced beside her.

The staff of the Womyn's Publication Network, formerly called the Emily, voted to run the photo taken by Vancouver artist Lincoln Clarkes.

But Jan McGee, Island Publisher's assistant press division manager, said that as a mother herself she found the image of the girl offensive.

"I am not saying that they can't get it printed. I am just saying that I'm not going to print it," she said.

The newspaper's publishers decided to place a box across the girl's body that read "censored" to avoid having to ship the newspaper off Vancouver Island to find a printer who would agree to print it.

"As a university paper we just don't have those kind of resources,"

said co-publisher Lisa Helps.

The group chose the cover image for an issue dedicated to discussing perspectives and experiences of sex and sexual diversity.

Because the image of a mother and child veered away from common images of sex, the newspaper collective thought it would open up discussion about women's sexuality in a feminist context, said Helps. "Mothers with or without their children are seen without sexuality," she said. "[The image brought mothers] into a space where they are allowed to be seen as sexual."

Other staff members at the newspaper were very critical of their publisher.

"What [Island Publishers' reaction] says to me is that the people at Island Publishers aren't willing to bring a child's body outside the realms of pornography," said co-publisher Jessica White. "I see the image as a beautiful picture because of what I bring to it. Whereas Jan [McGee] brings something different to it and therefore sees it differently."

There are varying opinions about whether Island Publisher's decision was appropriate.

Hamar Foster, associate dean of UVic's Faculty of Law, said he sympathizes with the paper, because

he was in university.

However, in his view, "Businesses are fairly free to decide what sort of business they accept, unless in doing so they violate human rights laws."

Debby Yaffe, a professor in the Women Studies department, feels the image should have been printed unaltered.

"[The newspaper] is not using [the image] to encourage the consumption of a product men sell or using it to encourage the exploitation of children's bodies," she said. "They are presumably using it to get a response and use that to help women discuss their sexuality and representation of women's bodies." Henry Lock, United Church Chaplain, however, says the picture is oppressive.

"For many people this would be an acceptable or titillating image. If the intent was to challenge the image by putting it on the front page, I don't think it would be seen as such," he said. "It is using the human body to sell a point of view." Others say it is understandable that Island Publishers didn't want to print the photo.

Cameron Young, a writing teacher at UVic, says the recent debate on child pornography has printers on edge.

"Because of the restrictive pornography laws and the recent hysteria



The controversial photo.

Lincoln Clark

around child pornography, it is likely that a charge could be brought against the printers," he said.

The 1993 amendment of the Criminal Code makes it illegal to visually depict any person under 18 performing explicit sexual acts. Concentrating on "sexual organs" or the "anal region," as well as any written or visual content that "advocates or counsels" sexual activity with a person under the age of 18, or any person portrayed to be under the age of 18, is also illegal.

Physical Plant administration structure remains unstable

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

No University officials would comment on Pretzlaff's situation as doing so would breach the U of A's agreement with Pretzlaff's union, the Association of Academic Staff (AAS).

However, in speaking of the ongoing restructuring of the Physical Plant, Vice-President (Finance and Administration) Glenn Harris mentioned that "[the University] is searching for a new Director of the Physical Plant."

With regard to why the results of Pretzlaff's hearing continue to be kept secret from students, Howard Welch, Executive Director of the AAS, said, "Everyone on campus has their own concerns, and I can see how this information would be of interest to students. But it is our legal duty to represent our members, and it's our first priority to make sure [our members'] interests are taken care of, so I'm not in a position to disclose any information on this matter."

In related news, U of A Vice-President (Finance and

Some [rumours] in the past few months have been right ... but if I were to answer to all of them that would legitimize them and obviously I don't want to do that.

— Glenn Harris, University Vice-President (Finance and Administration)

Administration) Glenn Harris denied reports that Jamie Fleming has resigned.

"[Fleming] is still working with us and has not submitted his resignation," Harris said, adding, "The rumour mill is rife, and I know some of [the rumours] are dead wrong. Some in the past few months have been right, too, but if I were to answer to all of them that would legitimize them and obviously I don't want to do that."

Non-academic staff at the U of A and various committee members have reported that they had been told by U of A administrators that Fleming had resigned.

Fleming, who was relieved of his responsibilities as Associate Vice-President (Operations and Physical Resources) last November, is working as a Business Manager in

the Finance and Administration office.

"Things are changing in our department and they'll continue to change over the next few months," Harris said. "... [Students] can't expect to know what's happening in real time while we are trying to work through these issues ourselves. ... I'm going to protect the people whose lives are affected before I'll comment on rumours."

Since the University has decided to restructure the Physical Plant and the Planning and Development Department, at least seven managers have been let go since September. As no new people have been hired yet to replace the outgoing managers, many department employees have claimed that these lay-offs have left the departments in a state of disarray.

Tools of violence molded into art

Neil Parmar
News Staff

After two and half years in development, the infamous Gun Sculpture is now open to the public at the Edmonton Art Gallery. Constructed with over 7000 weapons, the exhibit takes the form of a massive prison cell.

The structure is built of deadly artillery collected from around the world. Although deactivated by the artists (Wallis Kendal and Sandra Bromley), the guns, tank cannons, shrapnel, and other arms were all once used in violent crimes.

Everything from Chinese brass knuckles to Russian knives were confiscated by the police, and deactivated by us.

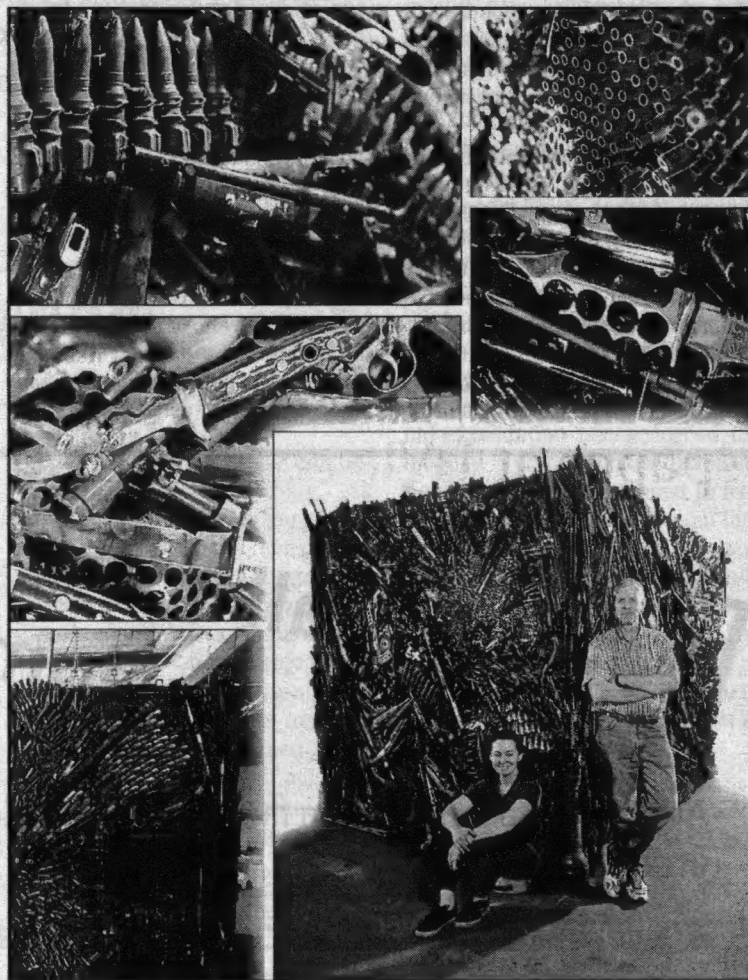
— Wallis Kendal, artist, co-founder of 'I, Human Youth Group'

"Everything from Chinese brass knuckles to Russian knives were confiscated by the police, and deactivated by us. The saddest part, though, is that behind every weapon lies a story," explained Kendal.

Penetrating the cell, however, is a single ray of light representing "hope and commitment for less violence in the future. It's been tradition [in jails] to see a sole window emitting that light, and were trying to get that across to the youth," said Kendal.

In conjunction with the sculpture, the artists felt they needed a younger voice to speak out against violence. After finding 13 teenagers of various social backgrounds, the I, Human Youth Group was formed.

During a presentation on February 3, the group held a discussion and unveiled their sister project to the Gun Sculpture. While the group includes 17 to 21 year



The Gun Sculpture, unveiled by Wallis Kendal and Sandra Bromley.

Edmonton Art Gallery

olds, it was obvious the kids were listening. "Twelve year old boys were out there blaming everything from video games to music, and then realizing it goes further back to the home. They understood that problems start with parental influence, and then move into the schools," explained Liv Lunde of the group.

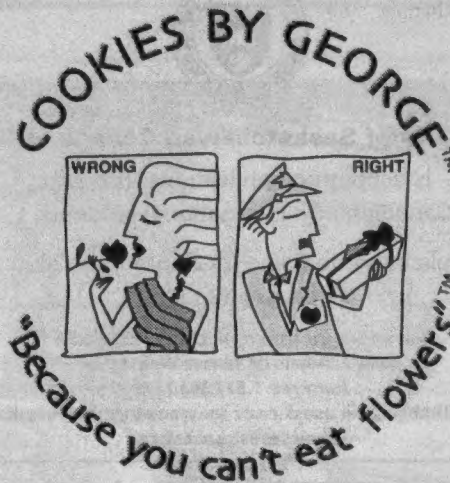
Along with the discussion, the teens showcased their interactive journal entitled The Red Tear. Including poems, stories, and visual slides made by the group, the journal will be transcribed on to a giant four-wall story board in the Edmonton Art Gallery.

Although hoping to use parts of

the journal as a study guide for schools, the group was recently disappointed. They admitted that "publishers have taken a great interest in the project, but then [they] calculated production costs. Unfortunately, most have opted out."

The main goal for the group, however, lies within financial limits. In promising to end the use of violence, the I, Human Youth Group is working on collecting a million fingerprints from around the world. Alongside the Gun Sculpture, The Red Tear will begin in Edmonton and make its way to the World Fair in Germany later this year.

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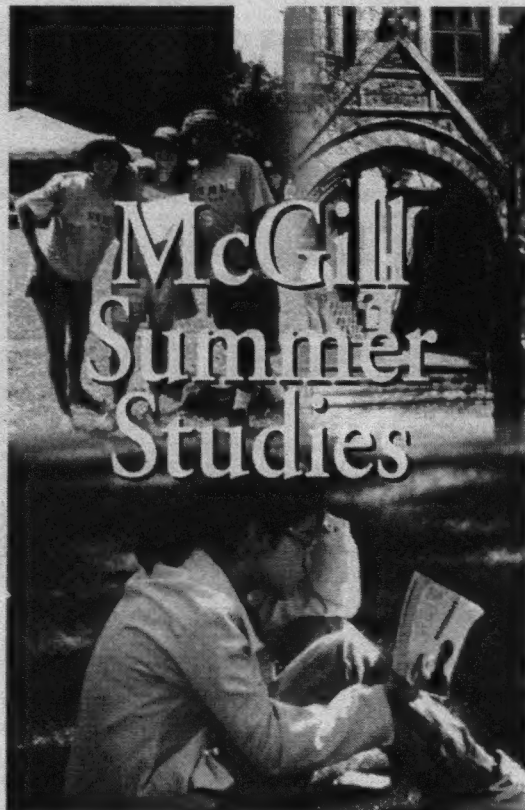
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Revelations 2000 brings researchers together

James Elford
NEWS STAFF

This past Saturday afternoon, the Butterdome was the site of Research Revelations 2000, an opportunity for researchers at the University to increase public awareness of their work.

The event, organized by the Office of the Vice-President (Research and External Affairs), is in its seventh year and has grown since its days in CAB.

Organizer David Norwood stated that giving researchers a chance to see what everyone is doing, and providing opportunities for collaborative research were just two of the reasons for the event.

He even pointed to a number of instances where researchers working on similar projects (or projects which crossed at one point) met at the event and went on to mutually benefit each researcher.

Norwood also expressed a desire to increase undergraduate knowl-

edge of the event, as well as public interest from outside the University.

Vice-President (Research and External Affairs), Roger Smith, also stressed the need to give event visitors a "sense of the breadth and depth of diversity at the University."

Displays have become more and more interactive.

— David Norwood, organizer,
Research Revelations 2000

Both Smith and Norwood pointed to the importance of bringing the research community together, not only with each other, but with the rest of the University and the public.

Norwood said that the "displays have become more and more interactive," and incorporated more multimedia in the last few years, a trend which he encourages. Moving the venue to the Butterdome has allowed for increased and faster Internet connections, a resource

which a number of the displays were using.

The displays were quite varied, from economics and the environment to a "virtual reality" minicave.

The Technical Resource Center (TRC) is the support unit which is "like the CNS but more on the hardware and classroom support side," said Brian Acheson, of the TRC.

In the same area was a computers display that went from beyond a 1960s era computer that looked like a typewriter with a roll of cardboard cut-out of a SGI Origin 2400 (which is the latest of the computer developments). In the same area was a "VR cave" which provided a modeling of the blood flow to the brain, which allowed a user to move around and inspect the differing pressures.

These were only a few of the 240 displays put on by more than 600 researchers and professors who had registered on their own or in teams.

Date-rape drug has been used in Edmonton

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Besides the worries of unprotected sex, extreme exposure to Rohypnol, particularly when mixed with alcohol or other drugs, may lead to respiratory depression, and even death.

Although Lesniak's ex (who's name is protected by the court), suspected that something was wrong, she had no memory of what happened to her that night. Her suspicions led her to seek out a doctor immediately, who ending up finding traces of Rohypnol in her body. After she confronted Lesniak, he admitted to assaulting

Although we've only ever had three reports where the date-rape drug was possibly used, a lot of cases go unheard.

— Kris Sowler, Director, Sexual Assault Centre

her and threatened that she would die of AIDS.

Police soon made an arrest and discovered a second order for the drug. It was this part of the testimony that allowed the judge to infer future plots of rape for either Lesniak's ex-wife, or another potential victim.

The judge pointed out that had she not gone and acted on her sus-

picious, the result would have undoubtedly become another statistic, with a rapist still out there.

The Sexual Assault Centre has received approximately 86 complaints of sexual harassment and abuse last year, and is located on campus for confidential support. They are also available for more information about Rohypnol and similar drugs, at 492-9771.

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STUDENTS' UNION

EDITORIAL

Goodwill is free

Every once in a while, you meet someone who changes your life. They don't necessarily have to do anything that affects you directly, and more often than not, it is simply leading by example that has the greatest impact.

We were chilling out at wreck beach in Vancouver. We plopped our naked asses down in the sand, and set out to waste an entire day just hanging out at by the ocean.

For the uninitiated, wreck beach is essentially a free zone in Vancouver: the police leave it alone during the day, and you can go drink beer, soak up the sun, get naked and play in the ocean. There are people who walk around and pick up bottles and cans, and at the same time pick up the garbage, making a few dollars and keeping the place clean. Vendors either set up booths or walk around and sell cold beer and iced drinks, and everyone can basically chill out and have a good time.

It was one such vendor that grabbed my attention. He was an older fellow, but his age and race were blurred by countless hours in the sun. He wore nothing but a loincloth, and was serving cold daiquiris from a booth he had set up on a stump. Wreck beach is littered with old trees from Vancouver's early logging days; huge logs offer places to sit, and tons of smaller trees have been stood up on end like the ghosts of a forest.

The leathery vendor pulled out a

shovel from his miscellaneous gear, and proceeded to start digging a trench about three feet wide, and maybe thirty feet long. To top it off, he was singing in a language I couldn't recognize. Here was some apparently crazy old dude, busting his ass digging a trench for no apparent reason, and singing at the top of his lungs like it was the greatest day of his life. My curiosity was sufficiently tweaked, and I went over and asked him what he was doing. His answer went like this:

"You see, underneath the sand here, there is a log. At the end of the log, there is a stump. It sticks up out of the sand by about an inch, and as people walk by my stand they stub their toes on it. So I am digging up the log."

The explanation made sense, and I went back to my seat, satisfied and feeling really positive. Think about it: here is a guy making a living selling cold drinks to hippies on the beach, busting his ass in the sun, having a grand old time, all so I don't stub my toe.

Simply beautiful.

It is too bad there aren't more people out there like that fellow. I know I'm trying harder to be one, and if every single person could embody a bit of that spirit, I think this short time we spend on this planet would be a hell of a lot more pleasant.

Theo Buchinskias

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR



After her mystical dental-chair experience, former NDP leader Pam Barrett forms a party even further left than Natural Law.

guilty of exploitation. Although the pedophile may think nothing is wrong with using the pornography as fodder for his fantasies, a child is still being victimized. As with any such paraphernalia or fetish, the potential is always there for escalation. There's always the danger that the fantasies won't be enough, and that the pedophile will feel the need to act on his desires with a real child; perhaps through the hiring of a child prostitute, the molestation of a child he knows, or with the abduction of a stranger. While he may draw a distinction between what he rationalizes as sex-for-hire and the abduction and rape of a neighborhood kid, criminal exploitation has occurred the moment a child becomes involved. Realistically, we don't need to fear that every guy who has sexual fantasies about children and who collects "kiddie porn" will actually molest a child, but in agreement with Paul Bajcer, I consider it a red flag to be watched.

DUANE OSTAPIW
EDUCATION III

Bajcer's logic is sound

Congratulations to Paul Bajcer for his ability to distill the issue of child pornography to its essence! All arguments used to defend the right of an individual to possess child pornography are basically flawed because they negate the rights of another group—children.

Yes, we do have a responsibility to protect those who can't protect themselves.

S MACFADYEN
EDUCATION IV

Don't judge, empathize

In response to all the debates on the abortion issue, I would like to make one thing clear for all those who see it as black and white.

We should not make accusations

or judgements until we have walked in a person's shoes. It is so simple to say what is right or wrong from within the coziness of our opinions. However, different people bear crises differently—mentally, physically, emotionally and spiritually. Everyone also has different outside circumstances and influences that effect their decisions, be it positive or negative, they are still alive and well and very real. Let's stop pointing fingers and begin to address the issues in society that may be able to lessen the chances that people will have to go through such experiences.

Let us also remember all the women who died when they had no one to go to. I do not only mean a proper/safe operation, I also mean those who had (and many who still have) absolutely no support system regardless of their choice.

STEPHANIE HEDREI

Take your fight outside

Regarding the Jerry Springer-style pro-life/pro-choice debate in the last seven issues of *The Gateway*.

Just some advice: mudslinging in the pages of this newspaper won't change anyone's mind. Personally attacking one person because of their particular views is about as meaningful as farting in to the wind. Feel free, pro-lifers and pro-choicers, to hold your meetings, rallies and opinions, but please move it out of *The Gateway*.

LISA PENNER
BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES II

The freedom of choice

I am pro-choice. I sincerely believe abortion is wrong, but I also think that society's treatment of young parents and the stresses placed on those who made a mistake and conceived a child is also

wrong. I believe that women and especially young girls should have a choice between whether or not to have abortions, but I don't object to other people trying to persuade these women not to as long as it's not violent or coercive.

The pro-life argument that the world is not overcrowded is absurd—are abortions done to control population? Birth control controls population, abortion is merely a desperate avenue for people who have conceived a child and who cannot deal with it. (And by the way, the world is overcrowded. A person does not just need standing room to live, we need food and shelter, and those things are starting to run out. If you want an example of an overpopulated country, don't go to Holland—go to India.)

I believe abortion should not be outlawed because it's a symptom and will be practiced even if it's illegal. The real problem is lack of empathy. The same people who call for a ban on abortions are often the same people who give dirty looks to young people with infants. They are often the same people who want to eliminate social programs and restrict birth control. They don't care to help, they'd rather just decide that these people are sluts and immoral trash and picket abortion clinics and kill doctors. The choice should be the parent's. Hopefully they'll choose life.

VINCENT CHU
BSC II

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 0-10 of the Students' Union Building, or emailed to managing@su.ualberta.ca.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of letters it deems racist, sexist, libelous, or otherwise hateful in nature.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words in length, and include the name, student identification number, program, and year of study of the author, to be considered for publication.

LETTERS

Actions speak louder than words

I attended the Town Hall Forum on Monday, January 31 and was impressed by the turnout of students, and was enthralled by Doug O'ram's sugar-coated words of understanding and sympathy for the cause of students at this university. He presented an image of an empathetic yet helpless administration, trying to stand up for students, yet held back by the regressive conservative philosophy of our government. I have to ask, then, after being presented with such an image of our university administrators, why some of their recent policies seem to betray their thin veil? The two most obvious are: (1) the policy of charging a \$40 'installment' fee as a penalty for paying one's tuition by semester and (2) the threat of revoking a student's registration if tuition is not paid on time. The installment fee is utterly ridiculous, since over half of the student body is now forced to take student loans, which coincidentally happen to be issued to students in installments. This makes paying the installment fee pretty inevitable for many students, like myself, in which case this fee translates into a penalty for not being wealthy enough to dish out \$4000 all at once for fees and books.

That sounds like a poor tax to

me.

The administration has demonstrated by their actions, as opposed to their sugar-sweet words, that they are completely apathetic to the plight of students. Instead of bending to accommodate students whose situation is more critical than ever before, the university is tightening the noose. I challenge Doug O'ram and the administration to demonstrate to students that you are on our side by starting with the elimination of these unnecessary and unjust policies.

DEREK GOUR
SCIENCE, III

Kiddie porn danger right on point

I would like to commend Paul Bajcer on his Thursday, February 3 article "Kiddie porn is no safety valve." I strongly agree with Bajcer that the fact that kiddie porn exists means a crime has taken place. Just by looking at the stuff, or passing it on to others, the pedophile is perpetuating a crime that occurred against the child, whether or not he was present at the scene of the original crime. Even if the pornography is purchased by mail order by someone who has never touched a child, anyone collecting it is

Classrooms are not for corporate brainwashing



Dave Stiles

It is sometimes difficult for us to set a straight rudder on the good ship of human civilization. We have spent hundreds of years fighting over our values, rights and freedoms, but to what end? According to an article published in the January 26 edition of *The Globe and Mail*, a federal advisory panel has recommended that Canadian schools teach basic business skills to children as early as elementary school. The end that they seek to push society toward is one in which our own government takes an active role in making our society a more competitive one.

I will grant that the corporate sector is an important part of the enormously complex system that governs the production and distribution of goods and services in our society. Nevertheless, to adopt the attitude that we should deify this sector as our *raison d'être* is a severe travesty and a sad monument to popular ignorance and apathy. We must remember that society is the master and that the corporate sector is merely one of its servants.

Education at all levels is something that should be held sacred. It must be kept as objective and multi-faceted as is within the boundaries of our ability to do so. Prostituting the curriculum that is the lifeblood of objective education to business interests can only work against us. If we fail to prevent this, the University of Alberta could rapidly mutate into the horrific spectacle of the Telus/Coca-Cola McUniversity of Alberta.

Even more devastating is the prospect of ten-year-old children being forcibly lectured to on competitive business practices when they should be learning about Newton, Shakespeare, Ghandi and Mozart.

Perhaps the most egregious consequence of such a practice in our schools is that it could easily exacerbate the social ills that plague us. Contrary to what NRA spokesperson Charlton Heston might assert, trench coats do not kill people. People kill people. When children injure or even kill each other in our schools, it is because they do not run with the pack; they are different and there-

fore suffer the intolerance of their peers. How can we justify encouraging children to adopt a competitive outlook when they already emerge from our schools with more aggressiveness and intolerance than they need? Nobody is calling for our children to be taught a little bit about social justice. No federal advisory panel is telling our schools that they should teach that the persecution of others on the basis of race, gender or sexual preference is bad. There is no cry that we have a moral obligation to help those in need, even if it means that we must give willingly and unselfishly of ourselves. Aren't these things more important than teaching students how to sharpen their competitive wits in an already cut-throat world?

When it comes to obligatory curriculum at all levels of education, we must once again remember that society is the master and that the corporate sector is the servant. It is only logical that publicly funded education should therefore encourage students to explore their place in and obligations to society. On the other hand, students have no obligation to corporations or any other business interests. If they decide that they wish to go into business, that is their prerogative, but they should have the right to make that free of corporate brainwashing in the guise of basic education.

If there is money to be made, rest assured that basic human greed will cause enough entrepreneurs to leap into action. If you believe in the free market economy, the idea that our nation could suffer from a lack of entrepreneurs is almost comical. Nevertheless, it forms the basis of this federal advisory panel's argument. Assuming that the panel in question does believe in the free market, we must conclude that its members are either very dull witted or that they have some other motivation for supporting a brainwashing program for elementary school students. What these ulterior motives might be is unclear. (Perhaps famed conspiracy theorist Oliver Stone would be interested in the topic.)

But what is quite clear in contrast is that there are many reasons to not follow the path outlined by the advisory panel, and no particularly logical reasons to endorse it. Our federal government should start putting some funds back into our schools and universities instead of wasting our taxes on useless advisory panels. Perhaps we can then stabilize that rudder on the good ship that is our shared society.

Canadians hump sheep too



Kris Meen

I have been taught from the time I was just a wee lad eating Gerber's Strained Pea Mush that Canadians were better than Americans. Americans were nasty flag-wavers—loud, obnoxious braggarts. And they humped sheep.

Imagine my disdain when I ended up in a fellow Canadian's room with some other folks, including an American, and discovered walls covered in maple leaves. I was treated there to a lesson from a loud, obnoxious chick from Ontario on how shitty the American film industry was and just how great the Canadian one was.

An unfortunate manifestation of our national penis-envy, the CN tower is our proof to the world that we can, in fact, build the biggest lightning rod in the world.

Is this an exception, maybe? No. Witness the gazillions of Candians wandering around the planet with big dumb maple leaves attached to their back-packs. "It's useful," they will say. Granted, it may have been useful at one time. During the Vietnam War, when colonialism had become unfashionable, Europeans took offense to the United States making a mess on foreign soil.

So Canadians wore their flags to avoid having their Parisian *croque-monsieurs* dumped in their laps, and to dodge the phrase "*gibt heim ein hooker vit der herpes*" when visiting the Dutch whore-houses.

Twenty-five years later, English street vendors will charge you an extra 10p for a hot dog whether you're American, Canadian or Ugandan.

The Canadian flag-fetish is an unfortunate manifestation of our

national penis-envy. It's like the CN tower, our proof to the world that we can, in fact, build the biggest lightning rod in the world. If we could all carry CN towers around in our back pockets when travelling, then we would. I'm sure of it. Instead, we obsessively wear our flags. Then, whenever someone says "so you're from America?" we can turn around and say, "no way, I'm from Canada. We're very much different from Americans. And *better* too! Do you wanna hear about it? Huh? Well, do ya?"

And they never do. But we tell them anyway. Loudly. And all we do is end up proving just how much we *are* like Americans. In fact, I'd say we prove that we're more American than the Americans.

I've even met a number of Canadians over the last few years who hump sheep.

Choking to death



Don Iveson

So how about I light up a bunch of toxic waste, and then blow it around in the room? Would you like that? I hope most people would have the good sense to leave the room, and that someone would kick me in the head for endangering other peoples lives.

But that's not what happens.

No, we (non-smokers) sit politely and remain courteous while someone lights up a cigarette. As one who is not often prone to telling others what to do or how to live, I find myself simply sitting back in my chair and trying hard not to cough.

That would be impolite.

The other side of this etiquette demands that smokers, for instance, delay lighting up around the dinner table until all have finished eating. I am told that some people are bothered by other people's smoking while they eat. This makes sense enough to me. I would even consider it courtesy were it not for the fact that I happen to be bothered by smoke whether I'm eating or not.

What difference does it make if a smoker is slowly killing me while I'm eating or while I'm sipping my coffee afterwards? This bullshit etiquette exists so smokers can feel less guilty about the harms that they are inflicting on others.

If there was any substance to this etiquette, then people would smoke outside. Even being in the same building as a smoker is harmful to an extent if the air is recirculated; to say nothing of walking past smoking areas and being subjected to the stench.

People have argued that smoking causes harm to smokers' lungs and hearts, and (as I have here)



Don Iveson / THE GATEWAY

that smoking causes harm to other people through second-hand smoke. Now this is no news flash. But try this on for size: smoking is retarded. Yes, that is a news flash. It must be since so many people don't see the problem with it.

I guess you've gotta see how the other half lives before you know what's really going on. So picture this: I'm sitting (voluntarily) in a smallish room with a whole load of smokers puffing away like Rene Levesque. At the time, I am annoyed by the difficulty I'm having with breathing. But the real joy comes the next day when I crawl out of bed feeling like I have ash in my sinuses. Coughing, I stagger my way into the bathroom for a shower and find that the smell of burnt tobacco is following me around. The shit is in my skin. It'll

take a few days before I feel clean again.

Having never been a smoker, I can only imagine that one must get used to that kind of feeling. But what happens when you need to run to catch a bus? What happens when you kiss someone?

If people start smoking because it's cool, then lung cancer and heart disease are cool by inevitable extension. If people keep smoking because it's addictive, they must love the way it slowly weakens their body. If people smoke to relieve stress, then stress is ok.

I don't understand any of this.

But, if people want to do this to themselves, let them. I'm not going to tell them to stop. But I do demand that they stop doing it to me.

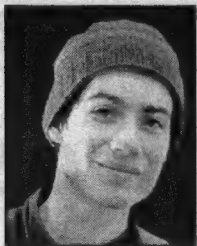
Take it outside.

DAVE ALEXANDER'S TOP TEN

Catchphrases that bombed

- 10 Stick that in your mouth and suck it.
- 9 Excuse me, I have to take a Shatner.
- 8 Well I'll be a monkey's nut-sack.
- 7 I'm Michael-Jackson-at-a-daycare horny!
- 6 An apple a day keeps the Russians away.
- 5 Just Ebert size it!
- 4 Well shit in my mouth and pump my boner, now I've seen it all!
- 3 Naziriffic!
- 2 Like flies on a dead baby.
- 1 I think I Bruced my Willis.

Virtual violence



Greg Kennedy

Malthusian mathematics has gone the lonely way of the abacus. Just as pocket calculators have rendered the latter obsolete, so has the vaunted Green Revolution done to the former. Malthus, that dour old clergyman, believed to have discovered a principle showing that while food production increases arithmetically, human populations rise geometrically. The unhappy sum of all this is a population far greater than the available food resources can sustain. Starvation, plagues and war soon balance out the equation.

But since the Second World War, to the embarrassment of the Reverend Malthus, food production has tripled, leaping ahead of a steadily plodding population. Does this fact permit us to laugh the gloomy sourpuss out of the crowded room? Before we do, we might indulge him awhile, if only for our own entertainment.

Malthus' general equation puts growing population and resource scarcity on one side, famine, disease and violence on the other. Some sympathizers have tried to defend his math by pointing to the estimated billion undernourished persons slumped around the globe. Others make mention of the novel or renewed epidemics, such as AIDS, TB and malaria, all bent on winning the numbers game against us. But it is in the neighborhood of violence where Malthus' predictions are most at home.

The past one hundred years have exposed themselves as the bloodiest patch of history ever tread upon by humans. The grand global village has turned out to be rife with an internal tribalism of unprecedented savagery and efficiency (to use a pair of words that have become synonyms). In retrospect, the rosy dawn of the supposed era of peace appears a gory horizon: two World Wars in Europe and innumerable more or less local ones in every other cranny of the earth, save our lucky own, have stained the very heavens.

The human population exploded despite the bombs. The bombs, however, despite this explosion, maintained an easy lead. Arms proved us inferior lovers, proliferating at so lusty a rate that no one could keep track. Now every five days the world spends \$15 billion dollars to satisfy the amorous passions of weapons. With six billion of us vying for a room with a view, the foundations of our full house have sunk deeper into the muck of violence.

Perhaps most telling, surely most terrifying is the transformation of violence. This

past century has spared most of North American soil from the horrors of war and, so it seems, overpopulation. We still have lands—lots of land. But these are false appearances. If we escaped physical violence, we have accomplished this by fleeing into metaphysical violence. The second may not make us bleed, it nevertheless will destroy us.

How many years of active duty would a soldier need to serve before he saw the 40,000 murders and 200,000 other violent acts that the Journal of the American Medical Association estimates the typical American eighteen year-old has witnessed on television? This same teenager can kill more enemies in a half-hour sitting at the computer than the most zealous butcher could throughout a brutal lifetime.

In this unsettling peace, violence soaks us to the bone. To some this sounds like mere hyperbolic metaphor. Far better, they argue, to watch than to act; vicarious violence, if not indeed beneficial, is at very least harmless.

We can dismiss as bad science the many studies linking video games and television programs to increased aggression and murder rates. We can call it coincidence that women's assault centers require extra staff on weekends when a major sports event of a violent nature, such as the Superbowl, is televised. What we cannot so easily do is brush off the philosophical implications.

Because our violence is predominantly virtual rather than physical, we deem it innocuous and acceptable. Yet as more aspects of our lives become drawn into the virtual out of the physical realm, the hard and fast distinction between the two fails to hold. The average Canadian watches close to 24 hours a week of television, not including time killed on the computer and at the movies. As technology advances, the virtual world expands, the physical world contracts and humans dematerialize, becoming ever more purely mental beings.

If our daily reality has grown less physical, then it does little good to base an argument for our innocence on the fact that our aggression has few physical effects. The further we fade into disembodied existence, the more that virtual violence becomes real violence, insofar as reality itself becomes virtual. Our brave new mediated world has reached a level of viciousness unique in history. Not only do we devote most of our leisure to carnage, but we even enjoy, reward and celebrate it. Old Malthus must pity our wicked, plugged-in souls.

In his *Four Arguments Against Television*, Jerry Mander explains the structural features of television and its broadcasting industry that together dictate the promulgation of virtual violence. The same applies to computers. So if we care neither for the pity of a dead pessimist, nor to validate his ugly principles, we need to practice caution not only in the bedroom, but also in our living and game rooms.

Environmental Research and Studies Centre Seminar Series

Thursday February 3, 2000

4:30 P.M.

Students' Union Building, Alumni Room
University of Alberta

Dr. Jim Butler, Professor Wildlife & Conservation Biology
Department of Renewable Resources, University of Alberta

The Quest & Passion for New Species: Celebration of Great Early Naturalists and Their Search to Document North America's Biodiversity

The paths and first discovery of North America's golden age of biodiversity documentation in the 18th & 19th centuries is filled with diverse, eccentric personalities, colourful and tragic events, honour and deceit. This slide presentation discusses: • the passions and competitions for discovery; • the geniuses, madmen, artists, scientists, pranksters, ministers and international spies; • the politics of Northern and Western expeditions; • why Charles Willson Peale served a banquet within the rib cage of a mastodon skeleton; • some of the mysteries surrounding many species never again seen alive in the wild.

Free Admission

Refreshments to follow

Contact: Beverly.Lewis@ualberta.ca

<http://www.ualberta.ca/ERSC>

Tel: 492-5825

This event is made possible by funding from TransAlta.



Environmental
Research and
Studies Centre



CAUGHT THE FEVER YET?

Join us before the game from
5 till 8 pm for a cheeseburger
with fries and a beverage
Take in a Bears or Pandas game
Then head back to our place to
party yourself silly
Show your ticket stub for no
cover charge

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Billiards by the hour • Group Bookings Available

Lower Level SUB

Prekop and Prewitt mellow crowds

REVIEW

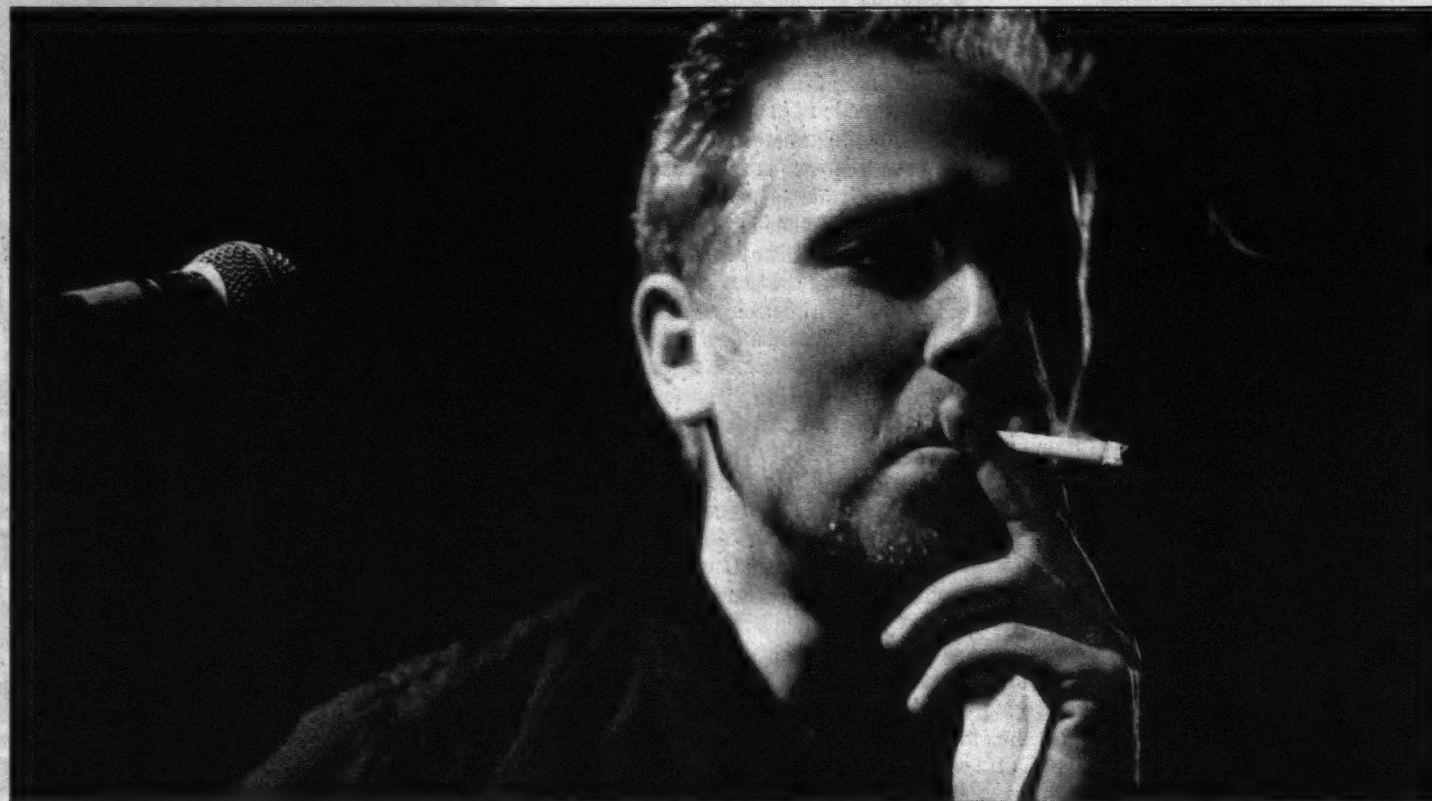
Sam Prekop and Archer Prewitt
with Parkade
Liquid Lounge
6 February

Mike Winters
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

During Archer Prewitt's set, I approached Sam Prekop who was calmly smoking at the back of the Liquid Lounge. After some small talk about his gig the previous night in Calgary, I asked him some dumb question about whether he liked Alberta. He tried to find something polite to say, but for guy who's been touring the world for a year, he wasn't sure how to respond. "Well I wouldn't live here, if that's what you mean."

Well, at least they showed up. Having Prekop and Prewitt at the Liquid Lounge marks the first time we've had a big name in the loosely labeled post-rock genre come to Edmonton. Both are members of The Sea and Cake, a Chicago group highly regarded by critics for their seamless blending of jazz, pop and experimentalism. By working past the limited parameters of rock and exploring different influences, the group practically defines post-rock aesthetic, which is more of an attitude than it is a cohesive style. With the group in between albums, both Prewitt and Prekop came to play Calgary and Edmonton in support of their solo efforts released last year.

Opening the show was local group, Parkade, an incarnation of the more experimental band Music for Plants. They're not so much a rock band as they are a noise project that exchanges power chords for increased distortion. And they were loud ... fucking loud. Obliterating any chance for conversation, the band held the audience ransom for about an hour, with most of the energy com-



Archer Prewitt takes a little break from the performance.

Chul-Ahn Jeong / THE GATEWAY

ing from guitarist Mark Colburn's hardcore screaming and the quick push-pull tempo of the drums. It was a stark contrast from Archer Prewitt's set that followed.

With just his guitar, Prewitt played a rather somber set off his two solo albums *In the Sun* and *White Sky*. The audience was quite respectful and surprisingly quiet despite the sell-out sized crowd. Prewitt's solo work came off less breezy than The Sea and Cake, which is largely Prekop's songwriting vehicle, anyway. Instead, Prewitt's plaintive lyrics and melancholy chord changes were more comparable to the music of Nick Drake. Without the rich ornamenta-

tion of his albums, however, Prewitt's set seemed a bit bare for a headlining act. He played well, but for all of the solemn self-seriousness of his music I wonder if stripping it all down was a bit too much to be effective. The unabashed earnestness of his music came off a bit too sappy without the meaty drive of a backing band.

Prekop's set was better. He started off by playing some free form song that pulled random bits from all of his solo songs. Then Prewitt backed Prekop on guitar, perfectly complimenting Prekop's jazzy chords and soft falsetto voice with succinct, shimmering high-end notes. The effect was quite beauti-

ful. Prewitt's added melody became so interwoven that it was hard to distinguish which part was written first. Prekop was also quite charming on stage. Agreeable and low-key, he made a few self-deprecating jokes and even played a request for "Parasol," a The Sea and Cake song. They finished with an encore The Sea and Cake song, "Do Now Fairly Well." Despite not having a band with them, Prekop and Prewitt managed to make two guitars carry the force of their music. Good music usually can create a new sense or mood. Prekop's dreamy music presents a sound that's sophisticated and challenging and yet, it's pop. It's a rare feat.

Nickelback makes triumphant return

REVIEW

Nickelback
The Rev
4 February

Sheldon Biamonte
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

It was three years ago, in March, I believe, where I first discovered the phenomenal sounds of Nickelback. This band, who I had never heard of before, was extremely impressive and I bought one of their CDs the next day. Since then, they have made a total of three CDs, one of which included their hit song "Leader of Men." Having toured with everyone from Creed, Silverchair, and Everclear, to Stabbing Westward and Oleander, Nickelback already has a fanatical live following. When asked how they chose their name, bassist Mike Kroeger replied, "We couldn't decide what to call ourselves, and after recording our first songs, we still didn't have a name. I was working as a cashier at Starbucks Coffee and let's just say ... coffee was \$1.45."

The rock ride began at 8:30pm Friday night at the Rev. Nickelback blew the roof off the place as they played to a sold-out audience. Preceding them were two opening bands, including a local band named Sleeve, who



Nickelback got loud at the Rev last Saturday.

Tim Bulger / THE GATEWAY

managed to keep the fans well entertained. But it was not until 11:30pm, when the DJ

announced the headliners, that the place began to shake with thunderous roars of

applause.

Nickelback lead singer Chad Kroeger announced his joy of being back in Edmonton and with guitar in tow, began the performance. The band played one energizing song after another, choosing from each album. The most memorable songs were "Breathe," "One Last Run," "Where," "Fly," and "Cowboy Hat." Each one displayed that heavy, blasting guitar power that only the best rockers can summon from their instruments. Throughout the night, I could not help but dance maniacally in synch with this phenomenal band, and body surf a little, too. I even recall jumping and screaming like crazy.

Everything was awesome and got even better for the encore performance. They really saved the best for last. The final song, "Detangler," was fantastic, and has to be one of the most energetic songs I have ever heard.

Nickelback was really the entire show on Friday night and left the fans begging for more. The way they seemed to organise the songs from slower to faster, almost as if to take us on a roller coaster ride that never stopped. It is time for this band to gain international attention. This was an amazing show, and for those of you who are unfamiliar with the band, it is time to do some research. Dedicated fans should keep on listening, because this band will only get better.

Alphonse presents a gentler way to look at life

THEATRE

Alphonse

Northern Light Theater (at the Old Scona Bus Barns)
by Wajdi Mouawad
directed by Sandhano Schultze
starring Chris Fassbender
February 4-19, 2000

Emma Hooper

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

"Why do I exist?" Pierre-Paul-Renee, a gentle boy with a toneless voice who is never

surprised by anything, cries to an old man whose beard goes on forever. The tension is high, for if Pierre-Paul-Renee so much as whispers the wrong thing, he will be turned into popcorn and will never be able to return all the cake recipes in the world to his king the vacuum-cleaner. It is up to Alphonse, a fourteen year old boy with an average upbringing, to rectify this situation and be sure everyone returns home safe.

In *Alphonse*, Northern Light Theatre's current production, the tumult intrinsic to coming of age is aesthetically presented through the story of one fourteen year old boy: Alphonse. When Alphonse's childish storytelling no longer impresses his friends and family, he embarks on a journey of maturation.

As Alphonse proceeds, his own progress is embellished and paralleled by the adventure he creates for Pierre-Paul-Renee, his imaginary friend and self who must retrieve the cake recipes belonging to all the chefs in the world (who have "died, been eaten by the enemy, or turned into popcorn") from the evil glutton Flupan. Upon his their pilgrimages Alphonse and P.P. Renee are forced to tackle such questions of maturation as: "Why does a tree grow tall?" "Why does a man grow old?" and "Why does the river run into the sea?"

Every character in the play, including Alphonse, his family, Pierre-Paul-Renee and even the narrator are portrayed by a single actor, in this case, twenty-two year old Chris

Fassbender. This is no easy task, as each character must be distinctively recognisable. Having not even so much as costume changes to work with, Fassbender makes impressive use of naught but inflection and body language to familiarise the audience with every individual character. This serves not only as a logical road map to following the story, but also as a source of comic entertainment, as we soon learned how Alphonse's girlfriend Judith has a compulsion with touching her neck as she speaks and of his French teacher's frantic dependence on cigarettes.

At some points, members of Fassbender's cast of dozens become difficult to distinguish, and have to rely on the feeble crutch of scripted introductions "Hi, I'm..." and re-introductions "Hi, I'm... remember me?" This slightly irritating and alienating tactic is used too often and could frequently be eliminated for a cleaner, less-scripted feel.

The true beauty of this piece is found in the writing. Originally penned in French by Wajdi Mouawad and translated to English by Shelley Tepperman, it is the actual words from the page that bring most of this play to life. Dialects are meticulously served as direct links to personality, as even the most lowly of two-lined police officer has his own voice. Particularly impressive is the voice of Alphonse himself, whose slight idioms portray magically the soul of this fourteen year old boy. His exact description of Pierre-Paul-Renee (the "gentle boy with a toneless voice who is never surprised by anything") and his awkward attempts to incorporate big words into his vocabulary ("He penetrated into the quintessence of the forest") are two telling examples of this.

Alphonse stirs a creative sort of theatrical magic that is a rare find in this jaded "bitter blacker better theatre" trend that is currently prominent, and is a delightful breath of fresh, innocent air. You will never think about popcorn the same way again.



Chris Fassbender takes on multiple roles in *Alphonse*.

Ed Ellis

Bomba! brings piece of Cuba to Edmonton

REVIEW

Bomba!

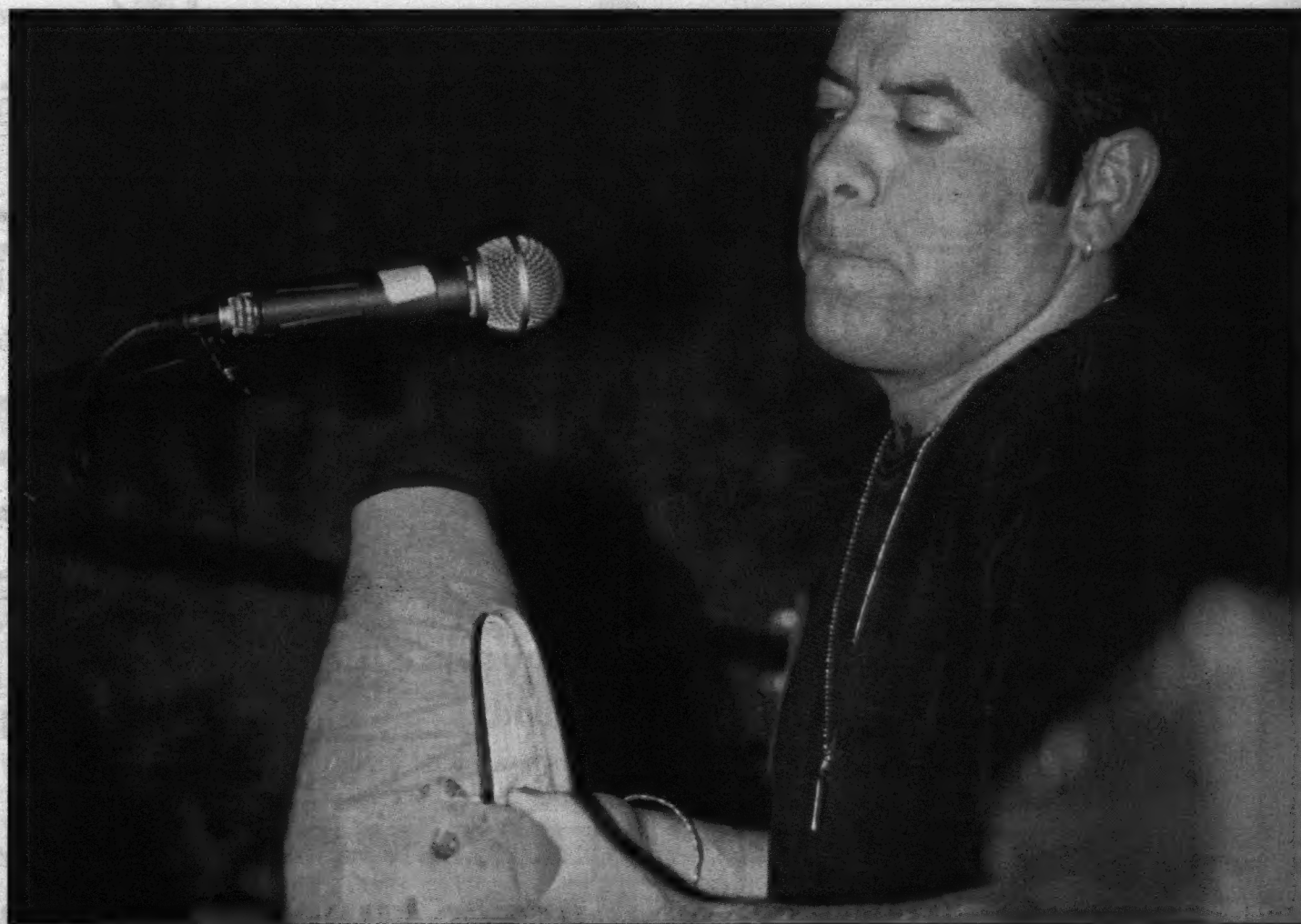
The Yardbyrd Suite
4 February

Sarah Chan

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

With the craze of Ricky Martin and the like as of late, it's easy to turn and sneer towards the notion of "Latin" music. The recent pop revival of Latin icons such as Ricky and Marc Anthony for example has exposed the western world to something new, but at the same time has polluted what South American music really is. This is why Bomba!, a local Cuban jazz band absolutely tore the roof off of the Yardbyrd this past Friday. Sans synthesizers and equipped with piano/keyboard, electric/double bass, guitar, and an array of exotic percussion, this group of hyped jazz musicians dished out all-authentic Cuban licks.

The group's leader and percussionist Mario Allende had just returned with other band members from a visit to Cuba. They obviously learned how to do it up in style down south because the crowd received were three sets of Cuban goodness. Ranging from sexy Spanish ballads to virtuosic jam sessions, the exotic sounds were irresistibly captivating. Bomba! delivered music that was impossible not to move to. However tentative and shy the crowd was during the first set, they could not help but rise from chair dancing to make the transition to the dance floor for the following sets, whether they knew the proper steps or not. Much to the delight of the band, the tables in the venue were later pushed aside to expand the miniscule dance floor.



This definitely wasn't "Mambo #5." It was, in fact, better.

Carl Schreuders / THE GATEWAY

The evening's main priority was to create an uninhibited, authentically free and Cuban environment: this much was achieved. The crowd was eased into new phenomena such

as the Peruvian box drum and the utilization of a large vase in place of drums at one point. It is a pity that Edmonton does not have the opportunity to keep in music like the Cubans

do, but with Bomba!'s performance, we at least got a taste of Cuban zest. The only bad thing about it is that it leaves you wanting more and more.

Edmonton Punks seek to solve problems

Promoters and performers meet to address issues

A&E NEWS

Jon Dunbar

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

On Sunday, 30 punks and local musicians met in public space in SUB to discuss the future of punk rock in Edmonton.

Following a show at Eastwood Hall, where there were reportedly eight fights, the promoter was told by caretakers that Eastwood would no longer rent the hall out to punk shows. This is just the latest in a long list of community halls banning punk shows that includes Ritchie Hall, Parkallen, King Edward Hall, and Westmount.

Violence has become a major concern at punk shows. Last December, a large group of Edmonton punks confronted Saskatoon-based Junto when band members expressed their anti-national views onstage. As a result of confrontations like this one, many community halls have told promoters not to come back.

At the meeting on Sunday, a number of alternative venues were discussed, including legion halls, Masonic temples, and the great outdoors. The possibility of weekday shows was also reviewed. Someone suggested renting a school bus and driving out to a small

town, and somebody else suggested picking a random address from the phone book and showing up at that person's front door.

The most significant step taken at the meeting was discussing the creation of a group aimed at self-policing the crowds. Some opponents of the meetings have expressed concern that such a body would serve to prevent certain bands from playing and refuse admittance to certain people.

This committee has already authored a pamphlet intended for distribution at shows that explains the purpose of the group and the need for community.

They are actively asking people who frequent the Edmonton punk scene to contribute more to the community. The meeting gave local promoters a chance to actively search for volunteers and posterers to help out at shows.

Present at the show were Shad, a 17-year-old who runs all-ages community hall shows, and Eli from Black Dot, who promotes punk shows for the Sidetrack Café. The meeting seemed more concerned with Shad's community hall shows than Eli's licensed, all-ages Sidetrack shows.

Involvement in the Edmonton punk scene is almost entirely composed of teenagers and underage youths who play in bands, pro-



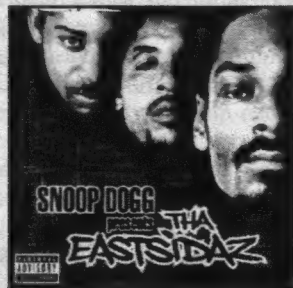
Venues such as Polish Hall, pictured above, are threatening to cut off punk shows.

Ben Morril / THE GATEWAY

mote shows, and complete all the other tasks needed to keep a music movement alive, and they want everyone to know.

This nomadic group of punks has recog-

nised the need to shed their chaos-punk image. If they want to continue putting on hall shows, they need to fight their own reputation.



CD REVIEW

Tha EastSidaZ

Snoop Dogg presents Tha EastSidaZ
Doghouse/TVT Records (Universal)

Vanessa McLeod

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

Warning: Snoop Dogg is back with a vengeance, and once again he's representing the West Coast. This time, Snoop Dogg teams up with two fellow Long Beach rappers, Tray Dee and Goldie Loc, to bless the hip hop community with 72 minutes of banging tracks. Some of the most powerful tracks include "Now We Lay 'em Down," "G'd Up"

and the old school sound of "Take it Back to '85."

Each rappers' unique flow teamed up with the numerous guest appearances, and vicious hooks makes this one of the best albums to emerge from the West Coast since Dr. Dre's *The Chronic*, and Snoop's debut album *Doggystyle*.

ROCK N RODEO

PRESENTS:

TOONIE TUESDAYS
\$2 Beer & Highballs

RETRO THURSDAYS
80s pricing
\$1.25 Highballs
\$1.50 Beer
50¢ Draft

WICKED WEDNESDAYS
\$1.50 Beer & Highballs

FRIDAY & SATURDAY
Loonie Highballs 8-10pm

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Gateway to Looooove

Rules

Write-in answers are permitted and encouraged. Truthfulness is mandatory. *Gateway* staff are ineligible. Shortlisted applicants will be contacted by phone and briefly interviewed, in person, largely to assure us of the applicant's sanity.



Deadline: February 11, 2000

Worried that Valentine's Day is only a short time away, and yet you have no date? Worry no more: *The Gateway* wants to pair off six strangers and send each couple for an awkwardly romantic dinner and dance. Just fill out this form, drop it off in 0-10 SUB, and we'll do our best to play match-maker. Of course, only six lucky contestants will be selected, based partly upon their compatibility with the partner we choose, and mostly on our whimsy. So go to it, and we'll do our best to find you a good partner.

Your major
 The major you wish you were in
 Describe your appearance

 Do you vote?
 What kind of shoes do you wear?

 Where are you filling this out?

 How attractive do you think you are?

 Does size matter?
 Do you have a criminal record?
 What's your favourite sport?

 How do you feel right now?

 One word: why are you single?
 Are you a good dancer?
 Do you try to fix people?
 What should we know?

Details

One couple each will be treated to Valentine's Day dinner at either The King & I, Zenari's, or The Sicilian Pasta Kitchen. Afterwards, each couple will be whisked away to The Garneau Theatre for in indie movie bonanza, followed by a special anniversary evening of dancing at Lush. The lucky couples will be subject to interrogation by *The Gateway* for a feature to follow. They will be provided with Polaroid cameras courtesy of HUB Photo to document the affair, and will be chauffeured throughout the evening by some unknown taxi company.

Choose

1. a) Hemingway b) Fitzgerald
 c) Steven King d) Toni Morrison
 e) VC Andrews f) Archie Comix
 g) *Penthouse Letters*

2. a) *Edmonton Sun* b) *Globe & Mail*
 c) *Gateway*

3. a) rabbit food b) dead flesh
 c) I'm on a see-food diet

4. a) 'Mambo #5' b) 'Lady in Red'
 c) 'I Wanna Rock & Roll All Night'
 d) 'I Feel Love'

5. a) mutual funds b) simultaneous
 orgasms

6. a) *The Simpsons* b) *Star Trek* c) *ER*
 d) *The Antique Road Show* e) *Blind Date*
 f) TV sux

7. a) brains b) brawn

8. a) car b) bus c) bike d) hitchhiking

9. a) beer b) wine c) pop d) milk
 e) water f) coffee g) slurpee

10. a) handcuffs b) holding hands
 c) my body's nobody's body but mine;
 you run your body—let me run mine!

11. a) heads b) tails

What do you believe in?

a) love at first sight b) studying c) fate d) aliens e) God

What is causing the downfall of our civilization?

a) WWF (the one with big guys wrestling) b) Microsoft
 c) the media d) welfare e) black helicopters

Where do your clothes come from?

a) MEC b) Value Village c) The Gap d) Colorblind
 e) Sears f) my mother dresses me

What personality flaw are you least forgiving of?

a) aggressiveness b) anal retentiveness c) selfishness

What physical flaw are you least forgiving of?

a) excess/insufficient weight b) bad breath c) height

What would you most like to do on a Saturday night?

a) study b) karaoke c) clubbing d) drinks with friends
 e) rent video f) bed g) 'bed!'

Who would you most like to date?

a) Ricky Martin b) Puff Daddy c) Beck d) Mike Chalk
 e) Denzel Washington f) Courtney Love g) Leslie Church
 h) Lucy Liu i) Janeane Garofalo j) Jennifer Love-Hewitt

What would your ideal job be?

a) CEO of Fortune 500 company b) criminal mastermind
 c) drifter d) wino author e) porn star f) *Gateway* editor
 g) whatever it was Tom Hanks did in *Big* h) cat!

What best describes your behaviour in a relationship?

a) you're afraid of hurting your significant other's feelings
 b) you always say what you think

Name _____ Age _____ Gender (M/F)

Phone _____ Sexual Preference _____

U of A wrestlers eager for Nationals

Chris Miller

SPORTS STAFF

With the amount of stamina, sweat and determination University of Alberta wrestlers showed on Sunday, you'd think they were already at the Canada West finals.

Sunday was the last day of wrestle-offs to see who would be the ten men and seven women to represent the U of A at Canada West finals, which will be held this Friday and Saturday in Calgary. It was also a chance, both for those wrestlers who will be competing in Canada West and those who won't, to continue developing their skills.

"We're working on power, we're working on explosion," said Vang Ioannides, head coach of both the men's and women's wrestling squads at the U of A.

"Three weeks prior, they were at a low period. People were tired. This week, we're seeing a huge increase in motivation and stamina."

This is going to be particularly important for the men's team when it takes on the universities of Manitoba, Regina, Saskatchewan and Calgary this weekend, as only the top three wrestlers in each weight class will go on to nationals. Although the U of C has been ranked first in most weight divisions throughout the year, the competition is still close.

"We're all capable of beating each other on any given day," said Ioannides. The only exception is the University of Manitoba, which, while not a strong squad overall, is still a force to be reckoned with in a number of weight classes, he added.

Women are selected for nationals through a different process. "It's only the second year of women's CIAU wrestling and as a result ... they have a different qualifying procedure," explained Ioannides. Female wrestlers qualify for nationals by taking part in tournaments throughout the year.

Their performance at these tournaments determines who will go to the CIAU championships. Six women from the U of A have already qualified for nationals in this way: Melissa Hillaby (48 kg); Jennie Young (53 kg); Linda Bishop (77 kg); Antigone Oreopoulos (70 kg); Helen Paik (57 kg, but will wrestle in the 61 kg category at Canada West finals) and Shannon Mathie (who qualified for both the 61 and 65 kg categories).

"I feel like I'm ready," said Paik after Sunday's practice. "We did intense training, and now we're kind of leveling off. It's more maintaining and practicing speed drills now."

Tasha Liddle, who had never wrestled until this year, said she's a little anxious going into Canada West finals for the first time. "I know I have to do a lot of mental



Members of the U of A wrestling team in preparation at the Butterdome.

Chris Miller / THE GATEWAY

preparation. It makes you less nervous going in, and less tense."

Mark Dueck, who is in his fourth year of wrestling at the U of A, missed Canada West finals last year because of injury. But things

are looking good this year, he said. "It has been my goal to win at Canada West and make it to CIAU."

With the amount of work U of A wrestlers have put in lately, he feels the physical side of their

training is where it should be. To make it to nationals, however, will take a little bit more. "So much of this is mental. I've got the skill. Now I just have to be in the proper mindset," he said.

Bears volleyball squad humiliated

Past weekend highlights a need for on-court leadership

Alberta Golden Bears

VS

Manitoba Bisons

0-5
(25-27, 22-25, 19-25, 23-25, 23-25)

Alberta Golden Bears

VS

Manitoba Bisons

3-2
(25-23, 21-25, 25-23, 25-21, 23-25)

Daorcey Le Bray

SPORTS STAFF

"Very humiliating." Those aren't my words, but they do the job in an illustration of this past weekend's demonstration of unpredictability in Golden Bears volleyball.

Why "humiliating"? That's Bear Pascal Cardinal's review of the Friday match against the visitors from the University of Manitoba. It was humiliating because the home team lost five sets straight in front of a fairly packed gym. They didn't lose horribly, mind you, there always seemed to be glimmer of a win for the U of A, but, time after time, the Bears would give away important points (or even a lead) to let their opponents walk out victorious and very happy.

The Friday game had promise, and even Cardinal noted that "I

thought we were ahead in every game," but by the end of the third set, the fans had gotten the point, and people started to file out—the fairly packed gym became fairly thin, fairly fast.

Friday's whumping came as an obvious shock to the Bears, but the Bisons also seemed a little confused.

"It wasn't typical Bears volleyball," said Bison middle Peter Turpin. Still, he wasn't willing to hold anything against the U of A. Saturday was probably in the back of his mind, and he didn't want to be caught off guard by the Bears.

As if with malicious intent to confirm his anxiety, Saturday handed a 3-2 set loss to the Bisons at the hands of the U of A. The scores were generally the same as the Friday games, but with a few obvious reciprocations. The match was an example of how the Bears can steal a win once provoked, but not an example of their best play (to see that, you may have had to visit Winnipeg two weeks ago).

How could the Bears split the weekend series so drastically?

"You can't pinpoint it on one thing ... it's been like that all year," said Bears coach Terry Danyluk about his team's unpredictable play. Again, his young team has demonstrated their inability to come together on the court. Yet they may not be completely at fault. Just take a look at the CIAU

stats for this season and you won't see a single team with a full compliment of wins. In the words of Bisons' coach Jim Schreyer, "All sorts of teams are beating each other."

"Tonight was just our night," he said of Friday's match.

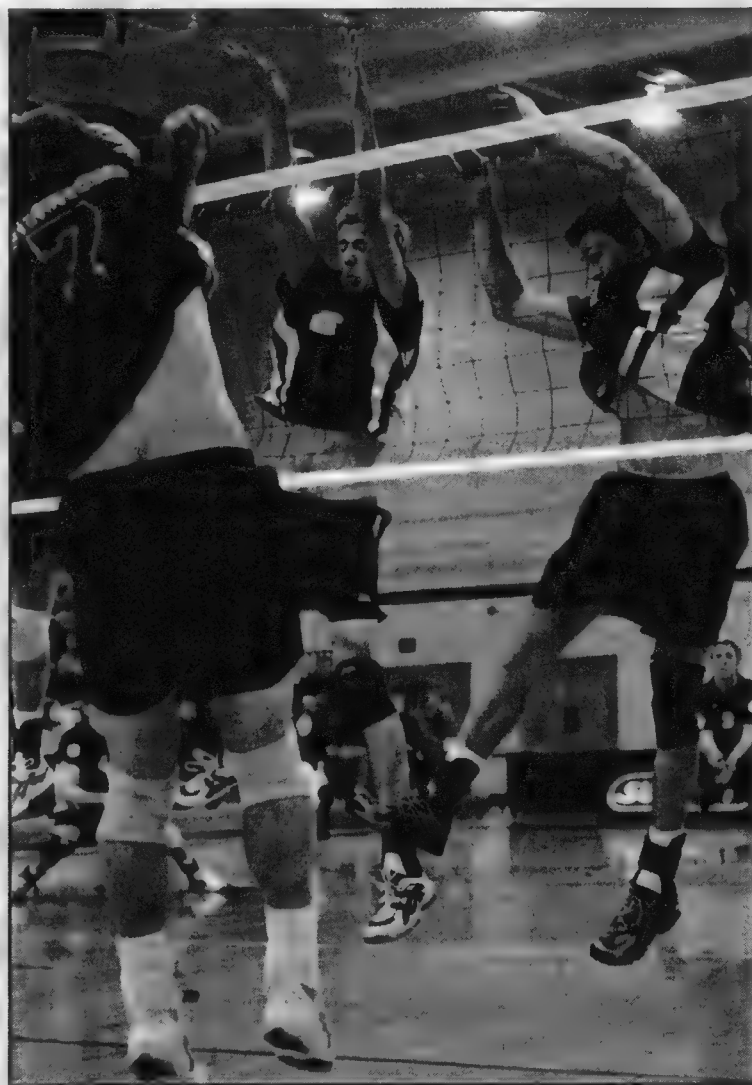
It definitely was the Bisons' night of change. Their past weeks of play had been relatively uneventful, and their matches had been distinguished by a lack of control on the court. Unluckily for the Bears, the Bisons picked Friday to break out of that slump and into a dominating rhythm of play.

For the Bears, a new problem seems to be cropping up—leadership on the court. A dejected captain, Pascal Cardinal, made a comment in that direction: "Somebody's gotta be out there to tell the guys to settle down and pick it up again."

Danyluk had a little to add to that with, "Everybody's looking somewhere else. They're not doing what they need to do to contribute." With this team, he can't burden any specific character with leadership.

"There's nothing mystical about leadership," he said. His goal now is to have the players realize that they should be looking within themselves for control of the weekly matches.

According to Danyluk, the way to win with the Bears now is simple. "All you need to do is do your job."



The Bears volleyball team couldn't come together last Friday.

Colwyn Llewellyn-Thomas / THE GATEWAY

Pandas volleyball clinches top spot in CIAU

Alberta Pandas
vs
Manitoba Bisons



Alberta Pandas
vs
Manitoba Bisons



Joseph Kumpula
SPORTS STAFF

Alberta hosted the Manitoba Bisons for back-to-back games on Friday and Saturday nights. The series started slow with a lack-luster Manitoba performance on Friday in the Main Gym, but turned into a dogfight as the Bisons struggled to hang onto their number-one position in the CIAU.

The big surprise of the series was the Bisons' poor showing in game one. The Pandas came in cold, not knowing what to expect from the league leaders, and their anxiety translated into some poor receiving and disorganized play early in the game.

Alberta settled down when Manitoba failed to capitalize on their mistakes, and handed their opponents an embarrassing loss by making it look easy.

"We have to be happy; we were dominating," said Panda coach Lorne Sawula. "It's so pleasing to see the team play that way."

Bison coach Ken Bentley admit-

ted that the team was disappointed with their play, especially considering they failed to compete for even a single set of the match.

"We played far below expectations," said Bentley. "It was pretty poor compared to our standards ... pretty simple really—not a lot to overanalyze."

His players echoed the sentiments, and blamed a lack of teamwork for their disastrous outing.

"[Friday night] we broke apart. Alberta beat us in every way, and they deserve that win," said Bison co-captain Nadia Melon.

Saturday night proved to be the dogfight everyone expected from the top two teams in the CIAU. The Pandas got behind two sets to one, but managed to come out on top by taking the game into a fifth set for the first time this season.

"We struggled, and could have fragmented and broken," said Panda coach Sawula. "The pressures of the game ... you can't buy those kind of situations."

"We've got some special players ... something inside helped us find a way."

Whether the games came easy or hard, the important fact is that the Pandas picked up two wins, gave the Bisons two losses, and moved into first place in the CIAU. The excitement of Saturday night generated a championship buzz to which both teams and the crowd responded.

"The excitement was there," said Bison captain Melon. "The intensity was like a championship match, especially with the fans. It was a great show."

The Pandas' confidence will certainly be given a boost. At the same time, teams around the country

who don't see much of the Pandas during the regular season, will be studying their every move when Alberta comes to the playoffs in the number-one position.

"I think this will wake up a lot of people around the country who don't accept us," said Panda coach Sawula. "Regardless of the situation, we have the potential to beat anyone at any time."

After weeks of discontent, the team seems to have snapped out of it by ending the season on a high note. For Panda veteran Heather Buckmaster, the two wins come as a relief, and officially end the team's rough patch.

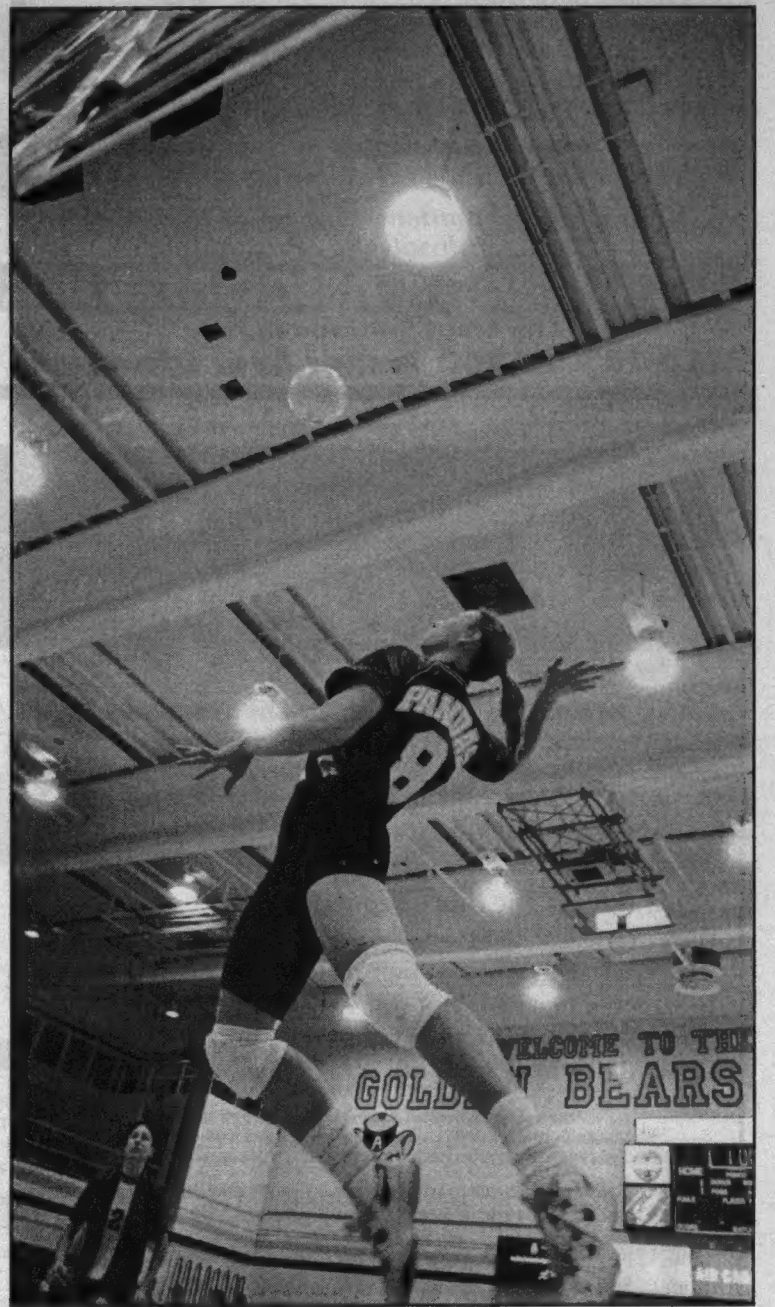
"We're trusting each other," said Buckmaster. "We built it up this last week, and especially with this last game. The team has gelled a bit more."

With the Pandas taking the championship away from the number-one team in past years, they aren't looking to make the same mistake. Panda captain Jenny Cartmell tempers her team's enthusiasm and tries to keep their focus on the future.

"When it comes right down to it, we have to be ready at the CIAUs."

Manitoba will be no less competitive at the championships for their two losses. If anything, losing again will only fan the flames of their animosity towards the Pandas. The Bisons will be putting it all on the line to prevent Alberta from seizing gold for a seventh consecutive title.

"We've been two of the top teams for a long time, and we've had the lower end for a long time," said Bison coach Ken Bentley. "When you're number one and two, there's a lot at stake."



Jenny Cartmell sets up for a power slam against the Bisons.

Chul-Ahn Jeong / THE GATEWAY

UBC's tender helps T-Birds dodge sweep

"There's a lot of improving to do," says Bears' Clayton Pool

Keith Justik
SPORTS STAFF

Chum; that's what they call the bait used to attract sharks in deep-sea excursions. Just off a 17-game winless skid, the UBC Thunderbirds fit this description of bait as they entered the weekend against the Bears.

The T-Birds, however, unexpectedly brought it all together and walked away with a point, and some Bear pride.

Friday began well enough for the Bears. Their number-one line, under the microscope as of late, connected when it set up Russ Hewson for his 24th goal overall this season.

If the crowd of 1600 thought Hewson's goal would set up an "all-you-can-eat" goal scoring smorg, it didn't.

Enter Robert Filc, the T-Bird goaltender who was recently acquired over the holidays. Filc turned away 79 of 83 shots the Bears directed towards him over two games. Like his Czech Republic counterpart Dominic Hasek, Filc has an awkward goaltending style. In many instances, he looked like a fish out of water, sprawled on the ice. His efforts, often acts of desperation, appeared heroic for the UBC cause.

The Bears' second and game-winning goal came from assistant captain Colin Ranger. The rugged winger, not known as a direct



Massimo Provenzano (#26) fights free of a T-Bird in last weekend's action at the Clare Drake.

Carl Schreuders / THE GATEWAY

offensive threat, managed to skillfully craft a goal in what assistant coach Ted "Pops" Poplawski termed the "six hole."

After working the puck loose in the corner, Ranger improvised by firing the puck over Filc's head and under the crossbar, while his body was still behind the goal line. It was a goal that surprised everyone, Filc most of all.

The game was a tough battle; tougher than it probably needed to be. That's why an early 2-0 lead Saturday night looked to be the ticket. First, Sean Day gobbled up a loose puck on the sideboards and

beat Filc high to the blocker. Then linemate Massimo Provenzano added a second on a wide-open opportunity in front of the net. Filc would cap the Bears' scoring at two in consecutive nights.

"It was like deja-vu of a similar weekend last year," said Bobby Niedzielski. "We do what we have to, then figure it's only UBC and let up."

Penalties became a factor for the Bears, who became visibly upset with UBC's clutch-and-grab tactics. The T-Birds scored once on the powerplay, then added the tying goal late in the third.

Assistant coach Poplawski, winner of five CIAU championships as both player and coach spanning three decades, noted that the team showed signs uncharacteristic of the Bears.

"[The Bears] took some penalties [they] shouldn't have taken," said Poplawski. "We have to learn to deal with it in the playoffs ... the ref will let a few things go and you have to be prepared to suck it up."

Defenseman Mike Garrow said the weekend showed signs that the Bears "need to get back to basics ... do the little things that make [the team] successful."



BEAR DROPPINGS

FRIDAY



SATURDAY



OFFENCE:	7
DEFENCE:	6
SPECIAL TEAMS:	6
GOALTENDING:	8

Bears goalie Clayton Pool, who stopped 44 of 47 shots, was not impressed with his team as he watched from the crease.

"It's not the way a number-one ranked team should play at this time of the year," said Pool. "There's a lot of improving to do if we want to go anywhere."

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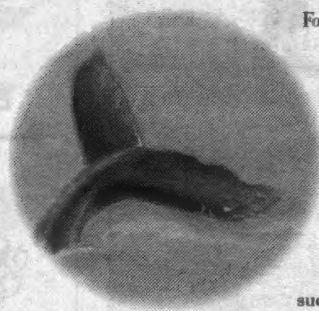
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The Elections Office is hiring POLL CLERKS for the March 8 & 9 election. Any S.U. Member is qualified. Applications are available in SUB, rooms 2-900 and 302K.

Contact the elections office :
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2) Book an appointment with an exchange advisor
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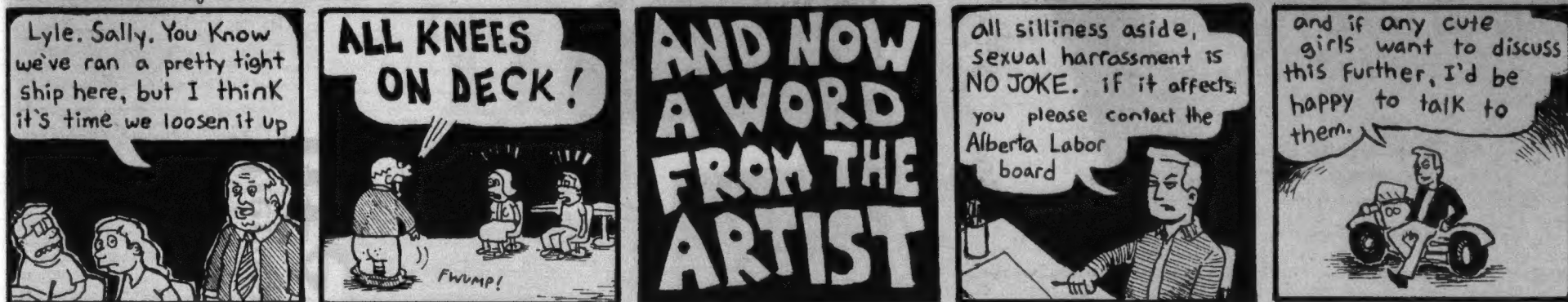
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